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جوردين تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانكليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية « الراي »

Syrian minister visits USSR

MOSCOW, June 29 (R). — Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas has arrived here for a week-long visit at the invitation of Soviet Defence Minister Mar Dmitri Ustinov. They will have their first meeting later today. Maj.-Gen. Tlas, accompanied by a Syrian military delegation, arrived last night, a Syrian embassy spokesman said. Observers said Soviet arms supplies and military aid to Syria were certain to be a main topic during the visit, which comes two months after summit talks here between Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and Syrian President Hafez Assad. A communique issued after President Assad's stay made clear that the two countries reviewed ways of strengthening Syria's defences.

China declares support for Arabs

HONGKONG, June 29 (R). — Chinese Communist Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng today reiterated the Chinese people's resolute support for the Palestinian and Arab people's struggle against "Israeli Zionism and superpower hegemonism," the New China News Agency reported. He told a leading member of the Palestine resistance, Mr. Abu Jihad, who is in Peking, "we resolutely support your struggle against Israeli Zionism and superpower hegemonism and for recovering lost territories and restoring national rights." "Because of superpower aggression and contention over the Middle East, the struggle of the Palestinian and Arab people is complicated and arduous and will be protracted," Mr. Hua said.

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OPEC members forego 5% oil price rise

VIENNA, June 29 (R). — Nine major oil-exporting nations today abandoned a planned five per cent price increase, saving the Western countries about \$2.5 billion in import costs this year. The decision was a compromise aimed at ending a six-month pricing dispute which faced the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) with the biggest crisis in its 17-year history. But two big OPEC producers, Iraq and Libya, which have taken a hard line on prices, stayed outside the agreement. Officials said it was not clear whether or not they would go ahead with the planned five per cent rise on July 1. OPEC's Vienna headquarters said Algeria, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Kuwait, Nigeria, Qatar and Venezuela decided to drop the higher price "in the interests of unity and solidarity of OPEC."

The climbdown was the result of an intricate compromise, under which Saudi Arabia and the UAE agreed likely to raise their prices by a further five per cent in exchange for the decision by the nine countries to freeze at 10 per cent. Saudi Arabia's Petroleum Minister, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, said on June 18 that his country and the UAE had agreed in principle to raise their prices by five per cent provided other OPEC members dropped plans for a further increase. A major question mark remained over Iraq and Libyan intentions. Iraq, OPEC's fourth biggest producer, and Libya ranked no. 7 in last year's production totals. Informed sources said today's decision represented a major concession by the nine nations, in deference to Saudi Arabia's insistent demands for a price hold-down. Although OPEC failed to restore pricing unity fully, the agreement was seen as an important papering-over of differences. It was considered probable that Iraq and Libya would fall in line, although perhaps not immediately. If they do, Western importers will save at least \$2.5 billion in import costs this year, according to industry estimates. If Iraq and Libya raise prices, it would remain to be seen whether Sheikh Yamani would carry out Saudi Arabia's proposal.

OPEC decision boosts stock market, pushes down dollar

NEW YORK, June 29 (R). — The decision by nine members of OPEC to forego a planned five per cent price increase gave a boost to the stock market but temporarily pushed down the dollar. Oil experts said OPEC's failure to announce that Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates would raise prices on July 1, thereby ending the two-tier price structure in effect since last January, left the impact of OPEC's announcement unclear. In addition, oil experts said they were waiting to see whether Libya and Iraq would fall in line with the nine other OPEC members in foregoing the five per cent price rise in July. On the stock market here, dealers said the OPEC decision, which will mean that the U.S. oil import bill will not necessarily take another big jump next month, helped counter fears of an economic slowdown. Dealers said the OPEC news, by injecting another element of uncertainty into the economic picture, put downward pressure on the dollar, which today plunged against the Japanese yen and West German mark. In the long run, the OPEC move would help the dollar by easing pressure on the bulging U.S. trade deficit, but the immediate impact was negative since the market was already nervous about economic conditions, the dealers said. In Washington, sources at the Treasury Department said that while pleased that at least nine OPEC members would forego another price rise, the Carter administration still believed that oil prices were too high and that any increase would not be economically justified.

Diplomats said it was unlikely that Saudi Arabia would have agreed to raise its prices unless there was a reasonable assurance that all OPEC members would implement a common price. The assumption was that Iraq and Libya would go along, but this would become clear only in two or three days, diplomats said. The compromise move was seen as a victory for the backstage diplomacy of OPEC President Abdul Aziz bin Khalifa Al Thani, Qatar's Oil Minister, and of President Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela, who were active for months in trying to end the two-tier price system. The effect of the 10 per cent increase, decided by OPEC oil ministers at Doha, Qatar, last December, was to raise the average price of a 159-litre barrel of OPEC oil to \$12.70. A further five per cent rise would have brought the price to \$13.30. The decision was announced 14 days before OPEC oil ministers meet in Stockholm for a regular twice-yearly conference. The text of the announcement was: "In the interests of unity and solidarity of OPEC, the following member countries of the organisation Algeria, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Kuwait, Nigeria, Qatar and Venezuela have resolved to forego the application of the additional five per cent increase in the price of oil as of July 1, 1977, a decision which was taken in Doha (Qatar) in December 1976."

Fierce artillery duels rage in south Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon, June 29 (R). — Lebanese rightists and their leftist-Palestinian foes today exchanged fierce artillery fire along a wide stretch of the border with Israel and more people fled their villages. Travellers said the exchange was still going on this afternoon and about 15 people in the leftist-held market town of Nabatiyeh and nearby areas were wounded, some seriously. Leftist-Palestinian gunners in Nabatiyeh and Amroun shelled rightists entrenched in Qleia and Marjeyoun, using artillery and other heavy weapons, according to travellers. Israeli jets flew over the battle zone, especially Amroun and Khiam. The Bint Jbeil region was also the scene of an artillery duel around midday today, forcing a number of people to seek shelter in safer villages, the travellers said. In Beirut, the Palestine news agency Wafa said today the rightists forces, supported by Israeli artillery, last night tried to infiltrate the south Lebanon Argoubh area. It added that the attack was concentrated on Biat village "but our forces drove back the



BRAVING EXCOMMUNICATION -- Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre defies Pope Paul by ordaining 14 priests and 16 sub-deacons despite a Vatican warning that he risked excommunication. See story on page 6. (AP wirephoto).

Dinitz complains of creeping devaluation in U.S.-Israel ties

TEL AVIV, June 29 (R). — Mr. Simcha Dinitz, Israel's ambassador to Washington, said today that Israel's readiness to negotiate a Middle East settlement without any preconditions had been made clear to the U.S. administration a number of times. He was speaking to newsmen on his return for consultations following talks with U.S. leaders on the recent statement of the Middle East issued by the State Department, and in preparation for the visit to Washington of Prime Minister Menachem Begin next month. Mr. Dinitz said: "Israel's stand stating that it is prepared to negotiate without prior conditions has been made clear a number of times. There is, however, an argument between us. Without going into the question of whether there is a 'creeping devaluation' in America's relations with us, we do have differences of opinions on basic questions. We do not make a secret of that," he said. Mr. Dinitz said the outstanding differences would be discussed during Mr. Begin's visit to Washington, for which the Americans had made no prior conditions. "I have been assured Mr.

Begin will be a very welcome visitor to the U.S.," he said. Israeli politicians were today still pondering the significance of a toughly-worded State Department statement. Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister until last month's elections, said on television last night the timing of the statement was "an act of rudeness unprecedented in the relations between Israel and the United States." He also said that everything emerging from Washington since he met President Carter there in March showed an erosion in the U.S. attitude towards Israel.

KHLEIFAWI ARRIVES HERE THURSDAY

AMMAN (INA). — Syrian Prime Minister Maj.-Gen. Abdul Rahman Khleifawi is due to arrive here Thursday morning at the head of a delegation to resume meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee.

KHADDAM DUE IN PARIS

PARIS, June 29 (AFP). — Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam will have talks here on Friday with President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and other senior French officials. Authoritative sources here said that during a visit lasting from Thursday night until Saturday the Syrian deputy premier will have meetings with Prime Minister Raymond Barre and French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud.

The talks are expected to centre on the Middle East situation, in the light of the hard-line Likud bloc victory in recent Israeli elections, and changes in the United States position on the Middle East. The latest developments in Lebanon and the Red Sea area, Euro-Arab dialogue and Franco-Syrian bilateral relations will also be raised, the sources added. Mr. Khaddam is currently on a visit to Italy.

Mr. Butros was here for a one-day visit and handed the Egyptian president a message from President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon. Mr. Butros told reporters on his arrival here he planned to review the situation in Lebanon with Egyptian officials following the Riyadh and Cairo summits of last October which ended 19 months of civil war.

Mozambique will get military equipment Following U.N. compromise

UNITED NATIONS, June 29 (R). — African and Western Security Council members agreed tonight on a compromise resolution aimed at equipping Mozambique's army to improve its defences against Rhodesian incursions, council sources reported. Britain and France had objected to an earlier proposal calling for immediate and substantial practical assistance to Mozambique. They said that this might be interpreted as an invitation to outside states to send in troops. In the amended version, agreed in day-long private negotiations, "material" was substituted for "practical". British Ambassador Ivor Richard, who led the Western negotiators, told reporters that this meant now that the supply of outside military personnel to Mozambique was specifically excluded. Mr. Richard said material also encompassed economic aid.

Kenya reports major border clash with Somalia

NAIROBI, June 29 (R). — Kenya charged today 3,000 regular Somali troops had launched a surprise attack on one of its border zone police posts and that 13 men were killed. A government statement said the dead were six Kenya policemen, a Somali lieutenant and six Somali soldiers. It said the clash occurred on Monday at Ramu, close to the frontier up in the far northeast of Kenya. Kenyan reinforcements had been sent up and the situation was now reported calm. The government said Kenya was expressing its serious concern. The affair undermined the good relations which it said existed between the two countries. Kenya also said today it would take any measure needed to "repulse aggression" and protect its nationals. It had told its delegation to the coming Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in Gabon to raise the matter.

EEC summit backs Palestinian homeland

LONDON, June 29 (R). — The nine Common Market countries tonight aligned their Middle East policy with the United States, accepting for the first time the principle of a Palestinian "homeland". A declaration issued at an EEC summit here echoed recent statements by President Carter on the Middle East and is seen as a warning to Israeli Premier Menachem Begin that the nine disapproved of his tough stand on a settlement with the Arabs. The text, issued by British Premier James Callaghan and the eight other community government heads, said: "A solution to the conflict in the Middle East will be possible only if the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to give effective expression to its national identity is translated into fact, which would take into account the need for a homeland for the Palestinian people."

knowledge of Israel's right to exist within secure and recognised frontiers and recognition of the rights of the Palestinian "homeland". The Nine today stressed a "crucial interest" in an early resumption of Middle East peace negotiations. They said the Palestinians should be represented at the negotiating table "in an appropriate manner to be worked out in consultation between all the parties concerned." The community countries said "they are also ready to consider participating in guarantees (as part of a settlement) in the framework of the United Nations." The paper had been prepared for some time and the summit leaders today had only to finalise the text and decide whether it should be made public now or later. They agreed to issue it to take account of the attitude of President Carter and the recent hard-line statements by Mr. Begin.

TEXT OF EEC STATEMENT

LONDON, June 29 (R). — Following is the text of the declaration on the Middle East made by the nine Common Market heads of government at their summit meeting here today:

STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST

1. At the present critical stage in the Middle East, the Nine welcome all efforts now being made to bring to an end the tragic conflict there. They emphasise the crucial interest which they see in early and successful negotiations towards a just and lasting peace. They call on all the parties concerned to agree urgently to participate in such negotiations in a constructive and realistic spirit. At this juncture in particular all parties should refrain from statements or policies which could constitute an obstacle to the pursuit of peace.
2. The Nine set out on many occasions in the past, for example, in their statements of 6 November 1973, 28 September 1976 and 7 December 1976, their view that a peace settlement should be based on Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and on:
I. the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force
II. the need for Israel to end the territorial occupation which it has maintained since the conflict of 1967
III. respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognised boundaries
IV. recognition that in the establishment of a just and lasting peace account must be taken of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.
It remains their firm view that all these aspects must be taken as a whole.
3. The Nine have affirmed their belief that a solution to the conflict in the Middle East will be possible only if the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to give effective expression to its national identity is translated into fact, which would take into account the need for a homeland for the Palestinian people. They consider that the representatives of the parties to the conflict including the Palestinian people, must participate in the negotiations in an appropriate manner to be worked out in consultation between all the parties concerned. In the context of an overall settlement, Israel must be ready to recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people: equally, the Arab side must be ready to recognise the right of Israel to live in peace within secure and recognised boundaries. It is not through the acquisition of territory by force that the security of the states in the region can be reassured, but it must be based on commitments to peace exchanged between all the parties concerned with a view to establishing truly peaceful relations.
4. The Nine believe that the peace negotiations must be resumed urgently, with the aim of agreeing and implementing a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the conflict. They remain ready to contribute to the extent the parties wish in finding a settlement and in putting it into effect. They are also ready to consider participating in guarantees in the framework of the United Nations.

Ecevit's chances of winning a vote of confidence in Turkish parliament seem more slim

ANKARA, June 29 (R). — Turkish Premier Bulent Ecevit's hopes for parliamentary approval of his minority government suffered another blow today when a minor centrist party announced that its three legislators would abstain in the vote of confidence. The Executive Committee of the Republican Reliance Party (RRP) said it had decided that a minority government would not meet the needs of the country. The decision appeared to move Turkey a step closer to a fullscale government crisis. Elections held on June 5 left the parliament bitterly divided at a time when economic problems and political violence are mounting. Announcing its decision, the RRP executive called today for a dialogue between Turkey's two big parties — Mr. Ecevit's social democratic Republican People's Party (RPP) and ex-

Premier Suleyman Demirel's conservative Justice Party (JP). Mr. Demirel has been waging a fierce fight to block Mr. Ecevit, whose RPP is the biggest party in parliament, from being approved as premier. The social democratic leader's prospects were already extremely uncertain. His party has 214 members and can count on the vote of an independent included in Mr. Ecevit's cabinet, for a total of 215 apparently sure votes in the 450-member National Assembly. Mr. Demirel's party, with 189 members, the Islamic-oriented National Salvation Party, with 24, and the ultra-rightwing Nationalist Movement Party, with 16, have all vowed to oppose Mr. Ecevit in the vote of confidence, expected in four or five days. Their 229 members make a majority, but Mr. Ecevit has been hoping that enough of their members would break ranks

and support him or abstain to let him win the vote. He had also been hoping for the three RPP votes denied to him today. Mr. Ecevit began reading his government's programme yesterday. While the rightwing is united in opposing Mr. Ecevit at present, they have not agreed on renewing the coalition in which they governed until this month's elections. If they ultimately agree to join in coalition again, Mr. Demirel, as prospective premier, would probably have to pay a high price in terms of offering key ministries to the strongly Islamic NSP and the ultra-right NMP. This could make it impossible for Turkey to take the firm action business and professional leaders believe is necessary to solve the problems of its debt-ridden economy and violence-plagued political and educational systems.

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Part VI Israel and torture: A Sunday Times report

EDITOR'S NOTE: On June 19, 1977 THE SUNDAY TIMES ran a detailed inquiry by the Insight team into the use of torture by Israel on Arab detainees in the occupied territories.

"Insight has questioned 44 Arabs who claim to have been ill-treated or tortured. Most of them still live in the occupied areas and some are willing to be named. We have tape recorded 110,000 words of testimony, and obtained corroboration wherever possible. Because the findings contradict official denials (by Israel) the evidence is set out in considerable detail..." THE SUNDAY TIMES says on its front page.

It continues "The practices we have examined have occurred throughout the ten years of Israeli occupation; our evidence spans this period, the last base being in December 1967. There is no reason to believe it has ceased: the allegations are continuing."

We continue with the testimonies of Palestinian detainees, possible locations of the principle interrogation centre and limits on the Red Cross.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Jordanian dailies Wednesday commented on the U.S. State Department's warning to Israel and the EEC summit meeting in London.

AL SEHAB said that the American State Department statement to Israel is a positive act which clarifies the policy of the American administration for the whole world. It is the first time that an American administration has publicly defined its approval of resolution 242 and the first time it has emphasised the logical interpretation of the resolution, which openly calls for Israel to withdraw from the territories occupied in the June 1967 War as a basic condition for establishing peace in the Middle East.

The paper continued that the U.S. statement was welcomed internationally. Only Israel has disapproved of the statement and expressed its worry. This signifies that Israel is the only one who opposes peace in the area. Israel accepted resolution 242 but later disapproved it just as it disapproves all U.N. resolutions issued to solve the Middle East crisis.

The paper added that the Security Council resolution calls for Israel's withdrawal from lands occupied in 1967 without the exclusion of any land. But Israel openly refuses such a resolution on the pretext that it wants "secure borders" and alleges the "liberation of the promised land." Israel forgets that the world, including the U.S., realises that "secure borders" are obtained by the desire for peace and coexistence based on equality. "Secure borders" are not obtained by feelings of superiority as Hitler had in his racist superior race theory. Israel also forgets that the world realises that it is degrading for all humanity to accept Israel's four thousand years old biblical allegations. These allegations wipe out the fact that several generations consecutively lived in Palestine and got assimilated in the homeland, something which Israel is not capable of achieving since it adheres to racist and stubborn religious ideas.

The paper concludes that the problem with Israel is that its creation is based on a political thought which mixes biblical and racist illusions. Only the U.S. is capable of saving Israel from its suicidal illusions and capable of bringing its thoughts into the 20th century.

EEC and M.E. Peace

AL DUSTOUR in an editorial entitled "The European Community and its responsibilities for peace", said that the EEC summit was meeting to discuss the persistent economic and political problems which will include the Middle East situation. The Middle East situation will be discussed in the light of a report prepared by EEC experts concerning the EEC's policy with regards to a peaceful settlement.

The paper added that all the capitals of the area await with great concern an EEC summit declaration on the Middle East, especially since the U.S. has clarified its stand through the statement issued by the State Department.

The paper said that the EEC has issued two positive declarations on the Middle East in 1973 and 1975. The paper commented that the EEC should not miss the opportunity to issue a declaration supporting U.S. efforts to establish peace.

The paper added that the EEC must put all its efforts into achieving a peaceful solution, now more than ever, because of:

1. Israeli insistence to annex occupied Arab lands;
2. The fact that U.S. peace efforts are reaching a decisive point where either the U.S. will succeed in taming Israel or the whole area will undergo a catastrophe;
3. A European role must be

resumed as any laxity on the part of the Europeans does not coincide with sincere Arab intentions and the Arab's oil stand towards the Europeans;

4. The Arab European dialogue needs a European stand that will allow such a dialogue to be resumed;

5. The security of the Mediterranean also includes the security of a number of European countries;

6. Any failure on the part of the EEC to support the U.S. State Department statement will probably weaken its relations with the Arab World.

The paper concluded that the capitals of the world await the EEC summit's statement on the Middle East. The paper also concluded that there is a great hope that the EEC countries will carry out their responsibilities, will participate in establishing peace, and expressed its worry. This signifies that Israel is the only one who opposes peace in the area. Israel accepted resolution 242 but later disapproved it just as it disapproves all U.N. resolutions issued to solve the Middle East crisis.

A Lebanese and Egyptian paper also commented on the State Department's warning.

Fifth M.E. War

AN ANWAR of Lebanon said it would be difficult to avoid a fifth Arab-Israeli war unless the U.S. and the Soviet Union agreed to impose a Middle East settlement by force.

The paper was commenting on Monday's statement by the U.S. State Department that Israel would have to withdraw from occupied Arab territories.

It said the statement was the public prelude to a "counter-offensive" by President Carter to statements by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin defending the occupation of the West Bank.

"Some say President Carter is not in need of going into a verbal and judicial exchange with Begin, and that he can simply say: 'I have decided to carry out the Security Council resolutions to which all parties have agreed', and that he should set a reasonable deadline, the paper said.

It recalled that Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev had proposed to former President Nixon a joint warning to Israel to carry out the resolution a few months before the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, but Mr. Nixon had dismissed the idea.

Al Anwar added: "The situation now is not much different from what it had been on the eve of the October war. It is difficult to avoid a fifth war between the Arabs and Israel unless Carter, this time, gets in touch with Brezhnev and agrees with him on imposing the settlement by force."

"Leaving it to the antagonistic parties to agree on solutions has only produced four wars in the region."

Positive Step

AL AKHBAR of Cairo said the U.S. statement was "a positive step towards the peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis but cautioned it might not achieve its goals.

Al Akhbar said this step "cannot achieve its aims since the new Israeli leadership considers extremism the only way to deal with Arabs."

This leadership, it added, "depends in its extremism on a huge arsenal of sophisticated American weapons."

Al Akhbar said the new Israeli leadership was "even laying down its plans on the basis of saying 'no' to the United States... rejecting American efforts to find a just solution, especially for the Palestinian question."

It added: "The Arab nation is ready for all possibilities, and the Israeli leadership is responsible before the whole world and history for all results stemming from its choice of the destructive extremist games."

There were also inconsistencies. Haq, for instance, recalls the courtyard as being "like the soil" and denies there were stones or gravel. And the ill-treatment alleged varied in type and extent. Freihat alleged almost continuous beatings and abuse. Abu Ghayur said he was hardly touched. (Perhaps the reason was that Abu Ghayur has a history of tuberculosis and, at his arrest, was ill with a stomach complaint.)

Taking the evidence as a whole, however, we conclude that it amounts at least to a strong prima facie case that in 1974 Israel maintained an interrogation centre administered by the army, where suspects were hooded, continuously handcuffed, deprived of sleep and other human amenities, and systematically subjected to physical and mental suffering.

WHERE IS this interrogation centre, this "Palace of the End"? The most likely answer is that it lies behind the high wire fence that all tourists see as they drive the last stretch from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. The wire, the military checkpoints at a couple of entrances, and a few low scrubby buildings in the distance are virtually all that is visible of the ten square miles of Israel's biggest army ordnance and supply depot, Sarafand. (The Jewish National Fund also uses part of Sarafand to house its equipment for road-building in its new settlements in Israel and the occupied territories.)

Sarafand occupies a prominent place in Palestinian demography. Scores of statements talk of it; and most of those who have been through the interrogation centre refer to it automatically as Sarafand. But that is an assumption on their part, as questioning soon shows.

There are, nevertheless, historical reasons why they could be right. Sarafand was built as the main British ordnance depot in Palestine before World War II. When Britain then needed two camps to house Arab detainees during the riots of the late 1930s, one was built inside Sarafand. (The other was in Snaia). So many of the old British mandate build-

ings were taken over function and all, by the Israelis that Sarafand would have been a logical choice to house a new generation of Arab detainees.

For it is clear from detainees' accounts that the mysterious new interrogation centre run by the military came into operation after the 1967 war. And it was another three years or so before its building - ramshackle at first, as if disused for a time - had been renovated. (Some detainees, taken there at intervals, observed the process.)

The assertion that they were in Sarafand comes most confidently from those early alumni. Yet each in turn seems to have learned this only from inmates already there. Only one claimed to have seen a sign "Sarafand prison," and we thought this improbable.

In those early years, blindfolding was less rigorously enforced, and a few detainees caught glimpses of their surroundings. One recalls a eucalyptus tree. But after 1970, continuous blindfolding and isolation shut out even those fragments.

Detainees could still hear, of course, and many speak of aircraft overhead. Sarafand lies below a flight path into Lod airport five miles away. But while some spoke of low-flying heavy aircraft - which suggests an airport nearby - others said they had been high. (Because theirs is the less predictable testimony, the flight-liers seem preferable witnesses.)

So completely have the Israelis managed to isolate those under interrogation since 1970-1971, in fact, that the only evidence that the centre did not shift to some new locale comes from two prisoners who, having been there before and after that period are confident they were in the same place both times.

But when we tried to match those few early topographical details with those from Harb and the others arrested in 1974, we could not decide if they related to the same place. Nor was Harb or his comrades prepared to assert that they were in Sarafand.

"Others said it was Sarafand, Harb recalled. 'But I don't know.' Because it was so hot there, Harb tends to believe he was in "the southern part of Israel." (But he lived in the cool hills, and all the Israeli coastal plain is hot in June.)

Husni Haddad agreed with Harb. "I was a driver and I knew the roads," he said, and he thought that on the journey from his home in Bethlehem the jeep had turned south before reaching Sarafand. Haddad also said that near the end of his stay at the centre, the shutter outside his cell window slipped.

He saw fast traffic on a main road about 150 yards away, he said. That is roughly the distance from the road to the buildings visible at Sarafand. But Haddad thought that a high proportion of the cars he saw had light grey number plates, which indicates Gaza registrations. He believed, therefore, that the centre was somewhere close to the Gaza Strip.

ISRAELI commonly cites the International Committee of the Red Cross in its defence. At the U.N. last November, for instance, Ambassador Doron said: "Following his imprisonment, particulars of each security prisoner are sent to the International Committee of the Red Cross." This category of prisoners, he said, "even enjoy some additional privileges, e.g. visits by the representatives of the ICRC... on these occasions, they may talk with each prisoner without witnesses."

Ambassador Doron did not mention two important points. The Red Cross has indeed been able to visit prisons in the occupied territories since 1968. (Israel denies that the Geneva Convention applies, so it concedes the Red Cross no rights there; but it is allowed in.) Throughout those nine years, however, the Israelis have consistently forbidden the Red Cross to see prisoners undergoing interrogation. Nor did Doron say what we know from unimpeachable sources to be true: over the last nine years, when Red Cross representatives have got to prisoners in jails, they have heard story after story of ill-treatment and torture. And the Red Cross has filed hund-

Third Circle Phantasmic By Omar Jawad Progress, anyone ?

My efforts to help solve the Arab-Israeli conflict are getting nowhere fast, and as a concession to the stark realities of this complex world, I hereby announce that I shall not put forward any more suggestions on how to solve the Middle East conflict for at least two weeks. In the meantime, however, and because I feel it my duty as a human being to help my fellow human beings live lives that are comfortable and understandable, I shall make an effort to help make the Arab-Israeli conflict less bewildering.

My thinking is that as long as we have to live with the Middle East situation as it is, we may as well admit this and see how life can be made easier for everybody. So I have a suggestion to offer. But first -- you guessed it -- some background is necessary.

I read a news item recently that said American aid to Egypt is now running at a rate of \$900 million a year. I thought it was a bit peculiar for the Americans to give the Arabs so much money every year for development projects that inevitably get destroyed every few years when there is a Middle East war. The Americans give money to the Arabs, and they give more money for the Israelis to use to beat up the Arabs.

So I suggest that the Americans simplify things for everybody by fighting the Arabs themselves, instead of paying Israel to do so. It makes much more sense to do this, and it would probably be much cheaper for the Americans in the long run.

I know that my suggestion will seem ridiculous to many people, but if you think about it for a moment you'll appreciate that it will still leave us with the same results we've been having for the past 30 years: The Americans will still give money to the Arabs to show us how much they like us and how interested they are in our economic development; there will still be a war every few years in which the Arabs have different areas of their countries destroyed; and the Israelis will still be able to ask for American aid by claiming that they live in a region of the world that is a tinderbox where a war could erupt at any minute.

The only trouble with this arrangement is that it lessens the Israeli need for massive American aid. The Israelis won't go for this arrangement, so I have a suggestion to placate them. The Americans could give the Arabs

several billion dollars in aid annually with the specification that the money be used to buy arms from Israel. This would keep Israeli industry working at full speed, which would keep the Israeli economy strong and thus in less need of American aid. The Arabs would have their weapons to fight the Americans, and the Arab-American wars could take place as planned every few years.

The way I see things, the Americans could invade an Arab country every, say, five years. What with Mauritania, Somalia and now Djibouti joining the Arab League, the choice of Arab countries with which the Americans can make war is growing every year. If Lebanon is partitioned and a Palestinian state created, this means there will be so many Arab countries that each one could safely expect to be beaten up by the Americans perhaps only once every century; this is far preferable to the present set-up, where several Arab countries have to fight the Israelis collectively every few years.

The big difference is that the new system would be so much easier to explain to Arab school children. Thus not only would my suggestion save money, and also save the Israelis and many Arabs much trouble, it would also contribute immeasurably to the serenity of little Arab children. If this isn't an investment in the future, I don't know what is.

And because the Arabs and the Americans are such good friends, perhaps a system could be worked out where we would only have play-wars. We could decide ahead of time what Arab cities are to be destroyed, and the inhabitants of those cities could be evacuated early to pre-arranged refugee camps. This would make things much easier for all those British charity organisations, something that would fit right into the Americans' new foreign policy aims of forging better relations with their North Atlantic allies.

The rationale behind my suggestion is that if America will pour billions of dollars in aid into the Middle East, and if it is necessary to have a war every few years, it is far better to have all this worked out systematically ahead of time than to leave it to the haphazard whims of the Arabs and the Israelis. The least we can expect from the U.S. is that it would apply in the Middle East the same standards of efficiency and planning that are applied in the U.S. itself. Now that would be real progress.

on the south side, near the solitary confinement cells.

These remain under the control of the security services, and the Red Cross has no access.

Nor, for the first eight years of occupation, could the Red Cross visit any prisoners in the holding and interrogation centre known as the Russian Compound in Jerusalem. And it has no access to the secret interrogation centre where Harb was held.

Moreover, 48 hours before a prison visit, the Red Cross submits to the prison authorities a list of prisoners it particularly wants to see. It sometimes then happens that when the delega-

tes arrive, they are told that the prisoner in question has just been moved to another jail. The delegates covering that jail promptly add the man to their list. If they in turn are told that the prisoner has again been moved -- a process described to us as "playing paper games" -- their concern inevitably increases.

So the Red Cross may only get to prisoners after a search and rarely if ever until interrogation is over. Several witnesses told us how Red Cross delegates greeted them when they finally met: "I've been to delegate allegedly said. Another apparently remarked: "Now I have found you, you will be safe."

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Cultural integration with Syria discussed

DAMASCUS (JNA). — Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz visited Wednesday resumed talks with Syrian officials on ways of boosting bilateral cultural relations.

Discussions centred on the basis for Jordanian-Syrian cultural relations. Sharif Fawwaz, leading the Jordanian team to the talks, and the Syrian Minister of Culture and National Guidance, Dr. Najah Al Attar, asked cultural bodies in the two countries to submit working papers on activities they want to carry out to help cement cultural integration.

The two sides also agreed to prepare two working papers -- one Jordanian and the other Syrian -- fixing the principles of cooperation between publishing houses, writers societies and theatre groups in the two countries. The ministers also called for the encouragement of joint productions.

Sharif Fawwaz was later received by Syrian President Hafez Assad and Prime Minister Maj-Gen. Abdul Rahman Khleifawi.

Sharif Fawwaz also held talks with Minister of Information Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad on cooperation in the information field.



Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif (centre) addresses the General Islamic Congress meeting here Wednesday to discuss Israeli desecration of Moslem and Christian holy places. (JNA photo).

Religious leaders urge meeting on West Bank

AMMAN (JNA). — The General Islamic Congress for Bait Al Maqdes (Jerusalem) has called for an emergency meeting of Moslem and Christian clergymen in the Kingdom to discuss the question of Al Aqsa mosque and the situation of Islamic and Christian holy places in the occupied West Bank.

The conferees, meeting here Wednesday, agreed to form a committee of Moslem and Christian leaders to issue statements and send cables to Arab and Moslem heads of state, the Arab League, United Nations and Moslem and Christian organisations outlining Zionist plans against Islamic shrines.

A Moslem-Christian delegation will pay visits to Arab, Moslem and friendly countries to explain the question of Israeli desecration of holy places.

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif, President of the General Islamic Congress, said that since Jordan was nearest of all people to the occupied Arab land, it was its sacred duty to convey its developments to the Arab and Moslem worlds and to outline the seriousness of the situation confronting the Arab people and holy places under occupation.

The minister said that the Israeli Likud's decision to place the Jerusalem walls and holy places under the supervision of the Rabbinical High Council and the continuation of excavations under Al Aqsa mosque would ultimately make Palestine a homeland for the Jews.

He emphasised that Israeli statements reflected Zionist colonisation plans.

Latin Bishop Nimeh Sam'an said that by placing excavations under Al Aqsa mosque under the control of the rabbis, the Zionists intended to realise their dream of building Solomon's temple over the ruins of Al Aqsa.

The bishop warned that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Church of the Nativity might face the same danger unless something was done now.

A total of 25 Moslem and Christian religious leaders were present, including Chief Justice Ibrahim Al Qattan, former Minister of Awqaf Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh, Mayor of Jerusalem Ruhi Al Khatib, Greek Orthodox Bishop Theodoros, Anglican Archdeacon Elia Khouri and former Minister of Social Affairs Emile Ghory.

Arab Air University to fly into Amman in great style

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

Having received clearance for take-off from the pan-Arab civil aviation and airlines organisations, the plan to turn Amman into the civil aviation capital of the Middle East is getting off the ground at last.

At a joint meeting in Morocco earlier this summer, the Arab Air Carriers Organisation and the Arab Civil Aviation Council approved plans to set up an Arab Air University in Amman that would serve the entire region. This has just been followed up by an official request to the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) for some \$300,000 to fund a pre-investment study and master-plan for the university.

The AFESD has greeted the air university project as a "deserving" one, and a favourable decision is anticipated this summer. If, for some reason, the AFESD funds are not forthcoming, Jordan will either seek other funding sources or put up the money itself for the pre-investment study.

The Arab Air University, according to Alia Chairman Ali Ghandour, one of the driving forces behind the project, is to provide a focal point for the massive training of staff that will be required by the Arab civil aviation industry over the coming decades.

According to the initial plan, drawn up by Arab Air Services Corporation, the Amman "main campus" of the university would be the hub of a network of training facilities throughout the Arab World, most of which already exist.

The Amman facility would be the central coordinating and policy-setting unit for the university, and it would set common standards, policies and rules for the aviation industry throughout the Arab states.

"We're aiming for a decentralised academy with a central unit to set standards and provide textbooks and training materials," Mr. Ghandour said in an interview here recently.

He says the personnel needs of the Arab airline industry are so great over the coming decade that the disparate training programmes being run by individual Arab states will not meet the staff requirements of the 16 Arab airlines. The rationale behind the Arab Air University is that it would br-

ing these separate efforts together and provide a standardisation that is essential for safety and efficiency in training.

King Hussein has already promised to turn over the present Amman airport and the Royal Jordanian Air Academy to form the nucleus of the new university, when the new Amman airport is ready by 1980. The gift includes the two new Boeing 707 and 727 flight simulators that are now being installed for Alia at the existing airport.

The initial plan for the university envisages it as offering both short technical training courses for airline personnel as well as a regular four-year bachelor's degree with a specialisation in engineering and sciences.

According to Mr. Najeeb Halaby, former Pan American World Airways Chairman and part owner with Alia and Syrian Airways of Arab Air Services Corporation, the university would probably have five "academies" -- for flying, flight services (cabin crews), maintenance, airports and airways (flight controllers, communications).

He said in a recent interview that some of the academies could be located outside Jordan, with the airports academy likely to be set up in Saudi Arabia, for example.

Both Mr. Ghandour and Mr. Halaby estimate that the project will include around \$25 million worth of new projects, including buildings and equip-



A plane out on a training mission for the Royal Jordanian Air Academy. Next in line: An Arab Air Academy embracing the whole of the Arab World.

ment for the campus that will be located in the area beyond the runways of the existing Amman airport.

Arab Air Services is expected to win the contract for the master plan and pre-investment study. Mr. Halaby expects these to be completed by the end of this year, so that work on the university's facilities could start in early 1978.

It is hoped that the university could open its doors by early 1980.

Mr. Halaby estimates that about 10,000 new trained staff will be required to man the Arab airline industry over the coming decade, and the expectation is that such an enormous training project would be run more efficiently and rationally under the aegis of the new university.

If these new staff were to be trained through the Arab Air University, the project would be self-financing after its

TIES ESTABLISHED WITH DJIBOUTI

AMMAN (JNA). — The Jordanian government Wednesday recognised the newly-independent Republic of Djibouti.

Abu Odeh meets Bahraini ruler

MANAMA, Bahrain, June 29 (JNA). — Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh, currently on a visit to Bahrain, was received today by its ruler, Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifeh, and its Prime Minister, Sheikh Khalifeh bin Salman Al Khalifeh.

Discussions centred on existing relations between the two countries and in particular those in the information field.

The meetings were attended by the Bahraini minister of information and Jordan's ambassador to Bahrain.

Later on Wednesday, an information meeting was held by the two parties during which they reviewed ways of boosting cultural and information relations. The exchange of television and radio programmes and news expertise was stressed.

ANTIQUITY TRADING PROHIBITED

AMMAN (JNA). — Licences for trading in antiquities have been withdrawn from all traders in Jordan, the Director General of the Department of Antiquities, Dr. Adnan Hadidi, said Wednesday.

He said his department had provided all traders with a list of antiquities so they can be bought by the department.

A sum of JD 100,000 has been earmarked in the state budget for buying antiquities from citizens.

Meanwhile, the Department of Antiquities will start to repair Qasr Al Bnat, a historic site at Petra. Other repairs and excavations are now going on in Petra by an American archaeological team in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities.

TRANSPORT ACCORD DUE WITH BRITAIN

AMMAN (JNA). — The government has decided to carry out talks with Britain to conclude an overland transport agreement. The time and place of the talks will be fixed later, Ministry of Transport sources said Tuesday.

THE MESSAGE PERMITTED IN AMMAN CINEMAS

AMMAN (JNA). — The Director of the Department of Press and Publications, in his capacity as head of the film censorship committee, Wednesday gave the green light for the screening of the controversial film *The Message* in both its Arabic and English versions.

The film, to be shown here in July, deals with the life of the Prophet Mohammed. It was co-produced by Libya, Kuwait and Morocco.

Most of the shooting of the \$14 million film was done on location in Libya and Morocco. Anthony Quinn starred in the English and the Egyptian actor Abdulrah Gheith in the Arabic version.

The film has been shown in various parts of Europe and the United States.

Malaysian ambassador ends visit

AMMAN (JNA). — Malaysia's non-resident ambassador to Jordan, Prince Abdul Aziz Mohammad Hamzah, returned to Saudi Arabia Wednesday at the end of a five-day visit during which he signed an air transport agreement between his country and Jordan.

Prince Hamzah, who is also his country's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, met with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim while here.

He was seen off at the airport by the Director-General of the Civil Aviation Department, Sharif Ghazi Rakan, and the Vice President of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline.

Britain agrees on allowances for Palestinians

AMMAN (JNA). — The British Ministry of Overseas Development has agreed to pay retired Palestinian officials a cost of living allowance for their unmarried sons and daughters under the age of 18.

Minister of Finance Dr. Mohammad Dabbas said the decision came after Jordan asked Britain to make such allowances the same as for Jordanian retired officials.

SAFI-AQABA ROAD FINISHED AT YEAR'S END

AMMAN (JNA). — The 187 kms. Safi-Aqaba road will be completed by the end of this year, the Director of Roads at the Ministry of Public Works, Mr. Salem Abu Hassan, said Wednesday.

He said the ministry had just completed studies for an additional 25 kms. link between Ghor Al Mazra'a and the Safi-Aqaba road. Work on the new extension will begin soon.

The Safi-Aqaba road will cost about JD 6 million.

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Yen hits three year high against dollar

TOKYO, June 29 (R). — The Japanese yen today rose to its highest level against the dollar for more than three years following foreign criticism of the country's massive trade surplus.

The yen opened on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange at 270 to the dollar, but appreciated almost immediately and hit 267.80 at one point before closing at 268.90.

Some market dealers said the Bank of Japan intervened to stem the dollar's decline, but withdrew as the measure proved ineffective.

Although there was no confirmation of central bank intervention, most foreign exchange bankers believed today that it would take action to prevent the yen rising above the 270 barrier.

Bankers are now predicting that the yen will appreciate to 260 in coming months, which would make Japanese imports increasingly cheaper and exports more expensive.

The next psychological bar-

rier after 270 will be at 265, the point at which the Bank of Japan sold many dollars following the yen's flotation in 1973.

Today's value of the yen against the dollar was the high-

U.S. buys up B.P. shares

NEW YORK, June 29 (R). — The North American public offering of 13.357 million American depositary shares of British Petroleum Company Limited, was completely sold early yesterday morning in strong demand, dealers said.

One dealer estimated the offer was "at least two to three times oversubscribed." B.P. shares traded at \$15.385 on the New York Stock Exchange around mid-day, up 12.5 cents from Monday's close and compared with the \$16.125 offering price.

Kuwait buys 3 jumbo jets

KUWAIT, June 29 (R). — Kuwait's national airline company Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) yesterday signed a contract with the Boeing Aircraft Company for the purchase of three jumbo jet planes. Officials said under the contract KAC would take delivery of the planes as from May, 1978.

Islamic Bank head visits Tunisia

AMMAN, June 29 (R). — Dr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali, President of the Saudi Arabian-based Islamic Development Bank, yesterday left Jeddah for Tunis, Riyadh radio reported.

During his visit Dr. Ali will discuss the bank's possible participation in financing a number of Tunisian projects, including the renovation of the port of Sfax on the Gulf of Gabes, the radio added.

Dr. Ali is also due to visit Niger following his visit to Tunis to see if the bank can contribute towards land reclamation projects there, the radio said.

Third World shipbuilding threatens Japan, W. Europe

PARIS, June 29 (R). — Japan and its West European shipbuilding partners are becoming increasingly concerned about the mounting trade threat posed by Third World shipbuilding nations, European shipbuilding officials said yesterday.

The rising share of the world shipbuilding market taken by countries such as Brazil, South Korea and Taiwan dominated much of a two-day shipbuilding meeting at the 24-nation Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Lloyds register of shipping figures showed that the share of total world orders taken by non-OECD nations has more than doubled in the last four years reaching 15.9 per cent in the first nine months last year.

Delegates said it was agreed that the next OECD shipbuilding meeting in September should concentrate on establishing why non-OECD countries

were so successful in obtaining orders.

Japan continued to show its displeasure at the spread of subsidies in Western European shipbuilding countries but welcomed efforts to restructure European shipyards, European officials said.

European delegates countered the Japanese criticism by again expressing dissatisfaction with Japan's decision earlier this year to raise the export price of its ships by five per cent, saying this was insufficient to increase the flow of orders of European yards.

They argued that Japanese prices remained artificially low, financed by order cancellation fees, past profits, exceptional overdraft facilities and the ability of Japanese yards to spread their overheads among associated companies.

Latest OECD figures show Japan's share of total new shipbuilding orders received in the OECD area fell to 54 per cent in April from an average 85 per cent the previous three months.

Kissinger blames bloc tactics for impasse in rich-poor dialogue

WASHINGTON, June 29 (R). — Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger today blamed the "stale rhetoric of confrontation" of developing nations for the impasse in establishing a dialogue between rich and poor countries.

At the same time, he warned Third World countries against overestimating their ability to manipulate raw material prices to their own advantage.

Speaking at Georgetown University Dr. Kissinger said it was clear that the so-called north-south dialogue between rich and poor nations had failed so far.

"And it is plain enough that if it deteriorates to a level of confrontation and conflict the Gulf between the rich and poor will widen ominously," he warned.

At the heart of the problem, he said, was the developing countries' "stale rhetoric of confrontation, their adherence to Marxist doctrines that have

never worked ... and their insistence on bloc tactics."

While the developing countries did have legitimate demands for equity and greater opportunity, their attempts to wield bloc economic power could only disrupt production, Dr. Kissinger said.

Another factor in the north-south dialogue impasse was developing nations' attempt to follow the model of the oil-producing nations and use raw material prices as a weapon.

Oil, he said, was a special case and it was high time that developing countries realised new schemes to market their raw materials could not be determined through attempts at economic pressure.

Underlining the role of the business community in the dialogue, Dr. Kissinger said only private capital could close the gap between rich and poor nations.

While no government could

possibly deal with all developing countries, these countries could, by their own initiative, attract private capital, he said.

It was irrational to fear the multinational corporation, which he called "an effective tool for the development of science and technology" promoting trade and commerce among nations.

Developing countries could control the operations of multinationals operating within their borders, he said, but "no country can hope for real long-term growth if it isolates itself from or systematically attacks the single instrument which is equal to the commercial, financial and technological tasks of the modern world."

Noting that widely publicised cases of illicit payments by a few corporations had obscured other innocent multinationals, Dr. Kissinger urged governments to establish ground rules for foreign investment.

While developing countries had a right to insist that investors' operations were consistent with national priorities, investors too had the right to know in advance what those ground rules were and "not have them altered arbitrarily and capriciously in the middle of the game."

News Focus

Self-management is key to successful Third World development

By Hartford Thomas

Rwanda and Burundi are two of the smallest, poorest and least favoured countries in Africa. This in itself has made them instructive test-bed sites for Third World development programmes.

The two countries are neighbours, straddling the headwaters of the Blue Nile and of the Congo basin. It is a long way to the outside world, 900 miles to the Indian Ocean and 1,200 miles to the Atlantic, and longer than that by round-about land routes with uncertain frontier crossings, through Uganda, or Tanzania, or Zaire.

Each is about as big as Belgium, and each has a population of about 4 million. They have the highest population densities of all the countries in Africa -- the official figures

bably between 2.5 and 3 per cent per annum.

About 95 per cent of the people live in the country, most of them at a bare subsistence level, in isolated family farms of typically about two thirds of a hectare (about one and a half acres).

Almost all the available land is already cultivated -- indeed it can be seen to be tilled right up to the very edge of the roads. An excessively large

these lines have been showing remarkable results.

Above all they have to raise more food from the same amount of land. On a recent visit I saw for myself that this can be done. When a farmer discovers that he can double the yield of his bean crop and grow maize twice as tall as his neighbour's the message begins to spread at top speed.

In Burundi a cooperative which started with 30 farmers in September 1974, had grown to 500 farmers by August 1976 and is now being expanded to 1,000, with plans for two more cooperatives for 1,000 each being put in hand. The first cooperative has become self-financing within two years.

This project is relatively expensive, financed by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the U.N. Development Programme, and UNICEF (the U.N. Children's Fund) to a total of \$600,000 over six years to 1980, but each cooperative is expected to become self-reliant within two years.

It is directed with dynamic enthusiasm by an FAO agricultural expert, Eddie Vos, from the Netherlands. He has shown the farmers that they can improve their own family diet and earn money by mixed farming. He has shown them how to use fertiliser, and introduced new cash crops such as cabbages.

He has got cash circulating in the cooperative by starting chicken farming. To do this Mr. Vos has had day-old chicks flown in from Belgium. They are reared under carefully controlled conditions for six weeks before being handed over to the farmers to fatten up for the market.

Now everybody in the area wants to be in on the chicken farming, but Mr. Vos keeps the chickens for the cooperative. In the cooperative the farmers have to follow the rules of good husbandry they are being taught by the "animators", the local instructors trained by Mr. Vos to supervise 35 family farms each.

The result has been to lift some 5,000 or 6,000 men, women and children out of the rut of subsistence farming into a market economy. Two years ago, they earned almost no money at all from their farms. Now some are taking as much as \$300 a year from the crops they sell to the market.

Mr. Vos's programme depends on quite expensive start-up inputs. In the remote Rwanda hills an experiment in improved farming is being run with minimal finance by a small Belgian Catholic project headed by Pere Silvain Bourquet.

A demonstration "fermette" or little farm, shows what can be done with new crops, how to terrace the soil against erosion, how to rear a cow and use the cowhouse manure for fertiliser.

The unit works closely with the local government structure of the commune and has become a centre for training local instructors who are elected by their own communities. Thus the influence of this centre extends over an area 60 kms long with about 5,000 family farms.

High up here in the heart of Africa the climate is not too hot, and with two wet seasons there is a two-crop year. The hills are green. In most places water is abundant.

Yet water, too, is a problem. Traditionally the woman of the family collects water from the nearest source at the foot of the hill -- which is often as not a polluted swamp. Yet this can be put right by simple skills at very low cost.

Trace the source of the swamp or stream back up the slope and you can uncover a spring. Dig out a small reservoir, put in a filter bed of stone and gravel, and pipe out to a

concrete platform cut into the face of the hillside, and you have a continuous supply of clean water.

These are the little springs now being tracked by survey teams in a major clean water programme in Rwanda. UNICEF is putting \$900,000 into the project for the good reason that polluted water is a main cause of disease in children. At a cost of about \$250 each 5,000 springs should be completed by 1980, bringing clean water to well over a million people.

In the field the work is done by local trained "fontainiers" with local voluntary labour. The direction of the project is in the hands of two Belgians, of the Association Internationale de Developement Rural, a Belgian non-profit making aid agency, in association with the Rwanda government.

In these three case histories there is one crucial common factor. All involve the active participation of the local people who are being trained to run these projects themselves without further outside aid, and in a manner which suits their own locality and their own community.

This is the key to the new strategy now being developed by all the United Nations agencies concerned with development aid. If development in the Third World is to become self-sustaining it must be rooted in local self-management.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Following are official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

Saudi riyal	92.5	93.0
Lebanese pound	107.5	108.6
Syrian pound	80.9	81.2
Iraqi dinar	940	945
Kuwaiti dinar	1137	1141
Egyptian pound	467	477
Libyan dinar	740	750
UAE dirham	83.5	84.5
U.K. sterling	569	575
U.S. dollar	330	332
German mark	140.3	140.7
French franc	67	67.3
Swiss franc	132.3	132.7
Italian lira (for every lira)	34.7	37.6

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies against the dollar at the close of inter-bank trading on the London Foreign Exchange Market today. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

One sterling =	1.7209 / 11	U.S. dollars
One dollar =	2.3383 / 93	West German marks
	2.4795 / 810	Dutch guilders
	2.4615 / 28	Swiss francs
	36.05 / 85	British francs
	4.9175 / 90	French francs
	884.70 / 80	Italian lire
	267.20 / 40	Japanese yen
	4.3975 / 85	Swedish crowns
	5.3175 / 85	Norwegian crowns
	6.0360 / 75	Danish crowns

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices were lower once again Wednesday on the New York Stock Exchange where the Dow Jones industrial average lost a little more than two points in moderate trading.

The market lost as much as five points during the day before recovering some lost ground in the last two hours.

The Commerce Department announced today that the index of leading economic indicators had fallen 0.2 per cent in May, its first decline in four months. Portfolio adjustments by institutions before the end of the first semester also had a negative effect, especially on blue chip and glamour stocks.

Most groups of shares closed on a mixed to weaker tone. At the close, the industrial average shows at 913.33, a loss of 2.29 points; Transp at 236.61, a loss of 0.29; utilities at 114.74, a loss of 0.29; 19,000,000 shares changed hands, of which 4,100,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Equities closed easier Wednesday after a quiet session. At 15:00 the F.T. index was down 2.7 at 455.9.

The active issue was again British Petroleum with the "new shares" 3p down at 376 after extremes of 373 and 383. The "old" shares closed 10p off at 926.

Government bonds showed little material change but the undertone was firm helped by the strength of the sterling, dealers said. Golds U.S. and Canadian were all lower.

Lucas lost 6p while 3p falls were noted in Fisons, Glaxo, Bata and Bowater. Unilever ended 4p off. Hawker Siddeley and Thorn were among firmer exceptions. Shell was 1 1/2p down in oil.

J. Lyons finished 4p higher after its results.

Price of gold closed in London Wednesday at \$142.50/oz.

Dollar falls sharply on W. German market

FRANKFURT, West Germany, June 29 (R). — The U.S. dollar fell to its lowest level in two years when it was fixed at 2.3400 marks on the foreign exchange market here today, dealers said.

The West German Federal Bank did not intervene. Dealers said the dollar fell swiftly in hectic trading following its weakness against the yen. It had been fixed at 2.3537 marks yesterday.

Dealers said they expected the dollar to weaken further, adding that it might drop as low as 2.3350 marks. The lowest previous fix of the dollar this year was in January when it fell to 2.3403 marks.

Sterling was also fixed lower at 4.028 marks today compared with yesterday's fixing of 4.049 marks.

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Egypt, West Germany sign aid agreements

BONN, June 29 (R). — Egypt and West Germany signed two aid agreements totalling 250 million marks (\$62.5 million) here yesterday and agreed to concentrate future cooperation on large-scale projects, the Foreign Ministry said.

The agreements include 180 million marks (\$45 million) in capital aid and a loan of 70 million marks (\$17.5 million) tied to the purchase of goods from West Germany.

They were signed at the end of two days of talks of a joint Egyptian-German Commission for Reconstruction and Development in Egypt by the State Secretary in the Bonn Foreign Ministry, Gunther Van Well, and Egypt's Deputy Economics Minister Gamal El Anzer.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

* TOKYO, June 29 (R). — Japan's Nippon Electric Company said yesterday it has obtained a 5.8 billion yen (\$21 million) order for two microwave communications systems to expand Libya's 1,700 kilometers-long telecommunication network along its Mediterranean coastline. The order covered the construction of a microwave system between El Howdood and Musaid to connect the main cities on the coastline, including Tripoli and Benghazi, and a new link between Marsa Bregah and Maradah, Nippon Electric said.

* VIENNA, June 29 (R). — Iraq and Romania signed an agreement in Bucharest to increase bilateral trade and broaden scientific and technical cooperation, Agerpres News Agency said. Iraq's Commerce Minister Hassan Ali, who arrived in the Romanian capital at the weekend, signed the agreement yesterday.

* TOKYO, June 29 (R). — Japan's Mitsubishi Industrial Group today decided to propose to the Saudi Arabian government a feasibility study into building a joint petrochemical complex in Saudi Arabia, informed sources said. The proposed complex would be built around an ethylene production centre with an annual capacity of 300,000 tons and could cost up to 500 billion yen (\$1.8 billion), the sources said. Mitsubishi last year deferred the plans to take part in the project because of big rises in cost.

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Your Daily HOROSCOPE

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ANDY GAPP CAN I BUY YOU A DRINK, MISS? THAT'S NICE OF YER... WATCH IT, LASS. I'S MARRIED - NOTICE 'OW 'E TURNS 'IS BACK WHEN 'E OPENS 'IS WALLET?

MUTT & JEFF RING-RING... HELLO - OH, REALLY, CAROL? WELL, TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT!... CAROL, I'LL CALL YOU BACK! I'M RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A CAKE!

THE FLINTSTONES PEBBLES, IF YOU DON'T STOP SUCKING YOUR THUMB, YOU WON'T HAVE MANY FRIENDS WHEN YOU GET INTO SCHOOL!... BUT... WHO NEEDS FRIENDS WHEN YOU HAVE A THUMB?

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes Will this meal be worth washing up for?

PROVERB The deeper you look into yourself, the worse you see you are.

GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF Q.1-As South, vulnerable with 90 on score, you hold: ♠AJ6 ♠A98 ♠K6532 ♠84 Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee BUTIC CRANF ENGLIS ASOURE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ACROSS 1. Harbinger of spring 25. Melt blubber 26. Correspond

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION Channel 3 & 5: 6:00 Children's programme 6:30 English by television 7:00 Busy bunch

Archbishop Lefebvre defies Pope, goes ahead with ordination

ECONE, Switzerland, June 29 (R) — Rebel French Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre today ordained 14 young priests here in an act of defiance towards the Vatican which could provoke the first schism in the Roman Catholic church for over a century.

The traditionalist archbishop, suspended from all priestly duties by Pope Paul last July, hurled his strongest attack so far against the Vatican in an address to some 4,000 followers gathered on a grassy hillside to watch the ceremony.

"Who is the Pope? What is the Vatican? What is the Holy See?" Archbishop Lefebvre, 71, asked, his voice often trembling.

He made no direct reference to a thinly veiled warning by the Pope on Monday that he faced excommunication if he went ahead with today's ordination.

Andreotti allies agree on legislation programme

ROME, June 29 (AFP) — Leaders of five of the six parties supporting the minority government of Italian Premier Giulio Andreotti have agreed on a programme of legislation to boost the economy, tackle violence and make educational reforms.

The programme was initiated here last night after three months of bargaining by the secretaries general of the Communist Party and Mr. Andreotti's Christian Democrats.

They were joined by leaders of three smaller parties and all five said they would seek the approval of their various party organisations before meeting again on Monday with leaders of the parliamentary groupings.

They did not however decide whether the present government should make way for a Christian Democrat-Communist coalition.

The Communists who have been in opposition for 30 years, favour this move, which would forge an alliance holding 490 of the 630 seats in the chamber of deputies.

The Christian Democrats who have ruled since World War II oppose it.

The Communist Party newspaper L'Unita hailed the agreement in a seven-column spread and said that "an important political declaration" had also been approved.

The Christian Democrat Il Popolo, more restrained, reprinted an agreement on the ordered a "broad consensus at the programme".

continue to oppose the reforms initiated by the Second (1962-65) Vatican Council and would continue ordaining priests at his traditionalist seminary above this southern Rhone Valley village.

Pope Paul said on Monday the archbishop faced "an irreparable break" with the church of Rome.

Archbishop Lefebvre told the gathering, at which he also ordained 16 sub-deacons, that "the mercenaries, thieves and wolves are already in the church. We do not want to be part of a church that makes friends with our enemies."

He bitterly attacked communism, criticising a recent visit to the Vatican by Hungarian Communist Party leader Janos Kadar, whom he accused of having "spilled the blood of Catholics" in Hungary.

Vatican Radio briefly reported that the archbishop had gone ahead with today's ceremony in defiance of the Pope and repeated the pontiff's warning of a break with the church.

It made no other comment, but there was speculation in the Vatican City that the Pope might refer to the situation in a sermon at high mass tonight in St. Peter's Basilica.

Msgr. Lefebvre, former archbishop of Dakar in the West African state of Senegal, told the hillside gathering: "We no longer understand. This is no longer our Catholic church, our Catholic faith."

"They want to align us with them, want us to lend our hands to the destruction of the church. But we don't want to be adulterers. We refuse to collaborate in the destruction of the church," he added.

Priests at the seminary here, answering reporters questions,

said the archbishop intended to continue as before if he were excommunicated. They said there was no question of his setting up a rival church.

The pale, white-haired prelate, sheltered by a large open-fronted tent as morning sunshine gave way to heavy rain, told his followers: "We do not want any other faith. We want the Catholic faith. We are all here because we want eternal life."

"What remains of the Catholic church? If you look around, you see seminaries closed or for sale," he said.

Msgr. Lefebvre ordained 14 priests -- 10 French, one American, a Swiss, an Australian and a Scotsman. But of 22 young men due to be ordained as sub-deacons, only 16 were ordained.

A seminary spokesman said he was not sure what had happened to the others. They may have been ill or the original list may have been wrong, he told reporters.

The last schism in the Roman Catholic church occurred in 1871 when the so-called Old Catholics broke away in protest against the definition of Papal infallibility by the First Vatican Council of 1869-70.

Traditionalists who still follow the now-abolished Latin mass and support Archbishop Lefebvre are concentrated mainly in France and a few other countries of Western Europe, including Austria, West Germany and Switzerland, where he has located his seminary in the predominantly Catholic canton of Valais.

Vatican sources have said there are probably a number of Catholics who secretly agree with his traditionalist views, but not with his defiance of the Pope.

N.Y. Mayor Beame: Concorde is a giant step backwards

NEW YORK, June 29 (R) — Mayor Abraham Beame yesterday adamantly opposed allowing the Anglo-French Concorde airliner to land at Kennedy airport here, saying the supersonic jet "represents a giant step backwards in aircraft development."

Mr. Beame was speaking at a sparsely attended public hearing held by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, operators of Kennedy airport, to determine whether Concorde would be acceptable to people living near the airport.

The mayor said the city believed "The Concorde should not be allowed to land at Kennedy ... (which) is in a densely populated urban area -- populated with people, not fish."

French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing has been quoted as saying that Concorde's noise around Kennedy would be heard mainly by fish.

British Airways and Air France did not attend the hearing. A long parade of local politicians spoke against Concorde.

His comments included: "Ralph Caso, chief executive of Nassau Country, near Kennedy airport, said 'I continue to be appalled by the arrogance of the British and the French, who are demanding that, at no matter what cost, we accept their noisy white elephant.'"

Congressman James Scheuer, who represents the airport area called Concorde a "flying fiscal disaster."

Mayor Beame said Concorde is a "regression rather than progression in air travel since it achieves higher speeds at the cost of greater noise. The Concorde thus actually represents a giant step backwards in aircraft development since it is being introduced at the very time when American aircraft manufacturers are producing quieter, cleaner aircraft."

News Focus

Britain ends EEC presidency: No triumph without a trial

By Mohsin Ali

LONDON, June 29 (R) — Britain's first stint as president of the European Common Market has been a mixture of success and failure, provoking strong criticism at home and in the eight other member countries.

For Britain the six-month tenure has left a slightly bitter-sweet taste.

This was the general verdict of diplomatic sources as Britain hands over the presidency of the European Economic Community (EEC) Council of Ministers to Belgium on Friday.

Britain's Labour government has been accused by many on its critics here and on the European continent of mishandling some of the delicate farm prices and other EEC negotiations.

It has also been charged with being half-hearted on the question of the European Parliament's first direct elections in mid-1978 because of divisions in the cabinet and the strong opposition of the anti-marketisers within the leftwing of the Labour Party.

But British Foreign Office ministers are impatient with these generalised structures.

They contend that no one but a fool would suggest that everything had gone smoothly since Britain entered the Common Market four years ago or took up the presidency on January 1.

These ministers admit that there had undoubtedly been disadvantages to Britain. But they added that these drawbacks were acknowledged at the time and must be balanced against the gains.

The ministers argue that on balance Britain has gained economically as a result of its community membership, not at

the expense of its partners but in comparison with what would have happened had it stayed outside.

They emphasise that a comprehensive balance sheet could not be confined to economic questions. Political factors of great importance were also involved.

The ministers, therefore, believe that membership of the community has greatly increased Britain's political and moral influence in the world.

Foreign Secretary David Owen -- who has presided over meetings of the community's Council of Foreign Ministers (top decision-making body) -- says that the time-span of the community's achievements cannot be made to fit into neat segments of six months.

He felt so strongly about the criticisms that he made a special journey to Brussels a month ago to defend the British presidency record and lecture to the International Press Association there.

Dr. Owen told the journalists that the community had a "dreadful tendency to be its own worst enemy."

"We repeatedly fix unrealistic target dates and then despair when they are not met."

"There are still some community commentators who assess progress against a short-term federalist goal to which only a few zealots aspire."

"This is a totally unrealistic yardstick and it would be arbitrary and mistaken to choose it as the basis for assessment," he told the journalists who specialise in covering the day-to-day developments at the community's headquarters.

In the British government's view the community has scored these two notable first achievements in the past few months

though they have often been depicted as failures:

1. For the first time the community has drawn the Soviet Union and its Comecon -- East European economic group partners -- into successful negotiations over complex fishery problems.

The Common Market has firmly exercised its rights over a new 200-mile fishing limits -- something which last autumn it was less confident about.

2. At the London Economic Summit last May of seven leading non-Communist industrial nations attended by President Carter, the president of the community's Executive Commission, Mr. Roy Jenkins, was able to take part for the first time.

He participated in the dialogue between the major industrial powers which covered community competence -- something which a commission president had not been able to do at such previous economic summits in Puerto Rico and at Rambouillet.

The British government also chalks up a success mark over the efforts it made as president of the community to get a reasonable outcome to the far-reaching Paris economic dialogue between the rich industrial countries of the north and the poor developing nations of the south.

British ministers are particularly pleased with the breakthrough they say the community achieved in getting a much stronger commitment from the United States, Japan and other industrial nations on the principle of setting up a common fund.

This would help prevent violent fluctuations of prices on raw materials in developing countries.

Detailed negotiations on this will be held in Geneva in November under the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

They also pointed to the British presidency's proposal to set up, with other non-Communist industrialised nations, a \$1 billion "special action" fund to help developing nations in greatest need because of oil price increases.

The Labour government thinks it has been helpful in trying to develop a better relationship between the community and the United States, their key partner in NATO for the defence of the West.

British ministers also have an answer to the stringent criticism that they took a very selfish attitude in the recent vital farm prices negotiations among the nine.

They say that they could not avoid this year the annual marathon, which the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) price-fixing usually entails. But they expressed the hope that the community would soon adopt a strategy for structural reform over a period of years.

The ministers claim that the package judged in consumer terms was one of the best for many years. The common price rise of three and a half per cent was the lowest since Britain joined the Common Market on January 1, 1973.

They bemoan the fact that newspaper headlines did not proclaim the negotiations as a "consumers triumph" instead of "crisis and deadlock."

The overall conclusion they draw is that in weathering the economic storm together, the nine will find that they have forged a deeper unity.

Bahrain, U.S. terminate accord for 7th Fleet port facilities

BAHRAIN, June 29 (Agencies) — Bahrain and the United States have agreed that the U.S. will give up its port and naval facilities here on July 1, Foreign Ministry officials said today.

Bahrain will take over the facilities on Friday, the officials said.

They said that agreement had been reached after negotiations which began in 1975.

It took a long time to reach an accord because the talks were interrupted by last year's U.S. presidential elections.

The dock and port facilities, at Juffair near here, were used to service ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that it had also been decided "by common consent" to allow the United States to retain a naval school here run by the Department of Defense.

He said that the two governments "agreed" that American warships will from time to time

pay courtesy calls in Bahrain's ports.

"These arrangements testify to the continuing friendship between the two countries", he added.

The United States signed a secret agreement with Bahrain six years ago under which Seventh Fleet vessels were allowed to use the base at Juffair.

The Bahraini Foreign Minister, Sheikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa was quoted by a Beirut newspaper 18 days ago as saying that the six-year old accord would be rescinded.

The minister said that Bahrain would recover control of the base, but added that U.S. servicemen stationed at the base and their families could remain in Bahrain as civilians.

The Bahrain press welcomed the announcement, saying that the base had "threatened the country's policy of non-alignment."

To highlight south Lebanon tragedy

Lebanese hijacks Gulf Air plane, surrenders to police in Qatar

DOHA, Qatar, June 29 (R) — A Lebanese man, arrested here today after hijacking a Gulf Air VC-10 airliner with 64 people on board, said he wanted to draw attention to what he termed the deteriorating situation in southern Lebanon.

Samir Mohammad Hassan Sharara, 26, said by officials to be from the southern Lebanese town of Bint Jbeil, told reporters he was fully satisfied that his hijack was "the best way to attract the attention of Arabs who do not care enough about the deteriorating situation in southern Lebanon."

The area has been the scene of armed clashes between Palestinians and the Lebanese left on one side and the Lebanese right on the other.

Sharara was arrested by Qatari security men after freeing unharmed the 55 passengers and nine crew aboard the airliner.

The plane, on a flight from London to the Gulf states of Dubai and Muscat, has since flown on with its passengers to Muscat.

An official statement issued here said Sharara, armed with a silencer-equipped pistol and two hand grenades, had boarded the flight at Dubai.

Qatari authorities allowed the plane to land here at 08:30 local time because its fuel would have lasted only another 15 minutes and the lives of the passengers and crew were in danger.

The statement said Qatar's Crown Prince and Defence Minister, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, went to the airport to supervise negotiations with the hijacker.

After Sharara allowed the crew and passengers off the plane, a group of Qatari security men "infiltrated inside the plane and arrested the hijacker," the statement said.

The pilot of the plane, Captain Roy Mitchell, told Reuters that the hijacker had two armed hand-grenades.

Speaking by telephone from

Doha, he said the man had burst into the cockpit shortly after the VC-10 had taken off from Dubai.

The man did not speak any English and his instructions were passed through an Arab-speaking hostess. Captain Mitchell said he understood the hijacker told the hostess he had a personal problem and wanted to meet the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani.

Mideast talks tipped to be on agenda of Waldheim's Moscow visit in September

MOSCOW, June 29 (R) — United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim will visit the Soviet Union in the first 10 days of September at the invitation of the Soviet government, TASS news agency reported today.

The announcement gave no further details of Mr. Waldheim's visit, which will be his first to the Soviet Union since 1972. His first year as U.N. chief.

On that occasion he held talks with Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko which

touched on some of the world's major trouble-spots, including the Middle East.

Western observers said that the Middle East would almost certainly figure in this September's talks and that the possible reconvening of the Geneva peace conference was likely to be on the agenda.

Dr. Waldheim's office announced last Friday that the secretary general would visit China from July 25 to Aug. 2 at the invitation of the Chinese government. He has made one other visit to China as secretary general, also in 1972.

Supreme Court helps clear way for public access to Nixon papers, tape recordings

WASHINGTON, June 29 (R) — The Supreme Court ruled yesterday that ex-President Nixon has no right to keep the papers and tape recordings from his years in the White House, a decision that helps clear the way for eventual public access to them.

The court voted 7-2 that Congress did not violate Mr. Nixon's constitutional rights when it passed an act in 1974 unbound the material -- it includes the recordings bearing on the Watergate scandal which led to Mr. Nixon's resignation.

At that time, Congress declared the former president an unreliable custodian of the documents.

Except for personal family records or papers affecting national security, more than 42 million pages of papers and some 880 tapes ultimately could become public.

But Congress must still approve regulations governing their release and these rules might then face court tests that would delay public access for months or years.

Yesterday's decision upheld as constitutional "the presidential records and materials preservation act" hurriedly pushed through Congress in 1974 to replace a law that would

have given Mr. Nixon considerable control over the records.

The court rejected a claim by Mr. Nixon that the act of Congress barred presidential privilege by jeopardising a president's ability to conduct candid and confidential exchanges with aides and foreign representatives.

Mr. Nixon also claimed the act was a bill of attainder, a legislative action singling out someone for punishment without benefit of trial.

Justice William Brennan said Congress was not trying to punish him but only to safeguard materials that might be of historical interest or necessary for legal proceedings.

Neither Mr. Nixon nor his lawyers made immediate comment on the ruling but it was praised by the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, a group that in 1974 secured an injunction against Mr. Nixon over his plans to keep the papers and tapes.

The ruling was "a historic victory for the public's right to know how this nation is governed and reaffirms the first amendment principle that government officials -- no matter how high -- remain accountable to the people and to history for their acts in office," the group said.

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700,000 year-old skeleton discovered in Greece

ATHENS, June 29 (R) — The oldest skeleton of man ever found in Europe has been discovered in a cave in northern Greece, according to a Greek archaeologist.

Dr. Aris Poulanos told reporters last night that about 10 years' work had gone into the discovery of the "Petralona Man", whom he calculated to be about 700,000 years old.

He added that traces of burned bones and ashes in hearths at all cultural levels in the Petralona caves south of Salonika where the skeleton was found left no doubt that the man was a user of fire.

"Thus we could say that we have at the Petralona cave the oldest traces of fire used by man known from any excavation to today," Dr. Poulanos said.

The previous oldest find in Europe was the Heidelberg Man, discovered near the West German city of the same name in 1907 and variously estimated at between 300,000 and 450,000 years old.

The Petralona Man was right-handed and probably had articulate speech, Dr. Poulanos said.

The cave was discovered by villagers in 1960 and appears to have been sealed for about 500,000 years.

"Part of the skeleton of the Petralona Man crumbled to dust when the scientists took it into the outside air," Dr. Poulanos said.

"But the skull itself was preserved by stalagmites," he said.

Dr. Poulanos added that a series of uranium thorium tests and electron spin resonance dating -- a new technique involving measuring the damage caused by naturally occurring radiation -- confirmed the date of the skull at 700,000 years plus or minus 100,000 years.

Dr. Poulanos said the minimum age of the stalagmites taken from the top of a column in the cave was 250,000 years old but the maximum date could be up to 700,000 years old.

At OAU meet

Chad charges Libya is occupying its territory

LIBREVILLE, June 29 (R) — Chad handed the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) a fresh problem today, asking the ministerial council meeting here to consider Libya's "armed occupation" of part of its territory.

Conference sources said Chad Foreign Minister Wadal Abdel-Oadir Kamougue asked the OAU to "use all its authority" in restoring his country's rights in the northern territory of Aouzou, which he said Libyan forces had occupied.

Accusing Libya of arming, training and providing cash for rebels in northern Chad, the foreign minister said his president, Gen. Felix Malloum, would raise the topic at the OAU summit opening here on Saturday.

The Libyan delegate said in reply that Chad was echoing the words and deeds of "imperialists", adding that if the council wanted to discuss the issue, it should do so on the basis of a dispute between two members, and not in response to Chad's accusations.

The council's Political Committee was also considering an acceptable definition of the term mercenary, a topic arising

from some of the other disputes affecting the continent.

The sources said the committee was having problems finding a definition, with Mauritania arguing it should include people who left their home states for training abroad and then returned to fight the authorities.

There were some suggestions that the committee, which is considering a convention banning mercenaries prepared by an international commission of jurists, might not be able to reach a decision on the issue and might defer it to the summit or to a later meeting.

The Angolan war is one of the main reasons why the topic of mercenaries has been raised, but observers said the Mauritanian interpretation could involve many states where there are rebel movements.

With the OAU working through its agenda in preparation for the four-day summit, the sources said the council had also been discussing the structure of the organisation itself, with delegates considering changes which could improve its ability to deal with disputes between its 49 members.

U.S. House votes to press ahead with B-1

WASHINGTON, June 29 (R) — Congress has voted to press ahead with development of the B-1 supersonic bomber -- which would be the most expensive weapons system in history -- even though some critics argued that it was obsolete.

Government sources here said yesterday the Soviet Union has already begun work on a new fighter designed to intercept the B-1.

But congressmen backing the B-1 said it could be modernised for service well into the next century against any Soviet air defence innovations.

A final decision on B-1 development now rests with President Carter who during his election campaign described it as a wasteful plane.

The Pentagon has already spent \$4 billion on the project and the House of Representatives last night rejected,

by 243 votes to 178, an amendment cutting off a further \$1.5 billion in funds for the plane. The cost of the whole project is estimated at \$24.5 billion.

If developed as planned, the B-1 would be able to fly at almost the speed of sound at altitudes of 200 feet (about 60 metres) to escape enemy radar.

The government sources said the new Soviet interceptors would have sophisticated "look-down" radar systems to detect bombers at three-top level.

They also said they did not think news of the Soviet developments would affect Mr. Carter's decision on the B-1, which he was expected to announce tomorrow.

Pentagon sources said the president had not yet made up his mind. But he was thought to be considering alternatives to the full proposed production programme of 244 B-1s.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

* TEL AVIV, June 29 (R) — Israel's Ministry of Education has withdrawn question papers for next week's national matriculation (school leaving) examination after the revelation that the complete set was on sale for 12,000 Israeli pounds (738 sterling). Communist Party member Charlie Biton said in the Knesset yesterday that copies of the various tests were available for sale to students. He sent copies of the papers, sent to him by a student, to Israeli newspapers which published them today. Prices were said to have ranged from 4,500 Israeli pounds (£275) for the mathematics paper to 1,000 Israeli pounds (£62.50) for the Talmud (religious knowledge) paper. New question papers are being prepared and police are looking for the source of the leak.

* CAIRO, June 29 (R) — Thirteen people were today sentenced a total of 75 years jail on charges of taking part in last January's food riots in Egypt, in which 80 people died. A supreme state security court in Cairo today acquitted 44 others. The accused are among more than 1,000 people standing trial on charges of taking part in the riots in several parts of the country.

* ABU DHABI, June 29 (R) — The United Arab Emirates officially recognised the Republic of Djibouti which gained independence on June 27, the Al Itihad newspaper said here today, according to the Qatar News Agency. The Foreign Ministry in Abu Dhabi sent a congratulatory cable to that effect to the Djibouti government.

* MAPUTO, June 29 (R) — Mozambique has recognised the new independent Republic of Djibouti. In a telegram to President Hassan Gouled, President Samora Machel also expressed Mozambique's desire of "establishing cooperation and friendly relations" with the new country. President Machel hailed the independence of Djibouti as a "victory of all Africa, all mankind, in the struggle against colonialism, imperialism and racism."

* VICTORIA, Seychelles, June 29 (R) — A new flag was raised here at midnight to replace the old one which the Seychelles islands' new leaders said resembled the British Union Jack. The new flag -- in red, white and green -- was raised as part of the celebrations to mark the first anniversary of independence from Britain. President Albert Rene said the flag had been chosen by the islands' new leaders and epitomised the revolutionary spirit of the republic. Mr. Rene took over control from the Seychelles first president, Mr. James Mancham, while the latter was attending the Commonwealth summit conference in London earlier this month. The national anthem will also be changed, the president announced.

* BAGHDAD, June 28 (R) — Kuwaiti Interior and Defence Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah had talks here today on strengthening relations between the two neighbouring countries, the Iraq News Agency reported. It said the visitor, who arrived here yesterday for a three-day stay, conferred with Mr. Saddam Hussein Taltriki, Vice President of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, and Iraqi Interior Minister Izzat Ibrahim. Similar discussions covering also the situation in the Arab region and international events were later held separately between Sheikh Saad and Mr. Ibrahim. The Kuwaiti minister had said at arrival that his talks here were a follow-up to discussions held by Mr. Ibrahim in Kuwait earlier this year. Observers believed Sheikh Saad's talks would deal with differences over delineation of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border.

* WARRINGTON, England, June 29 (R) — A British firm which sells prayer mats to Mecca today won the Incredible Exporter of the Year award. Mr. John Newhill, director of the 10-employee firm in Halifax, thought up the idea when told that traditional sources in Beirut had been stopped by the civil war there. "I copied an illustration from a book at the local library. A couple of days later half a dozen samples were on their way to Mecca," Mr. Newhill said today. Others competing for the award included firms selling Chinese food to Hong Kong, another which sells yoga mats to India, and a company exporting Swiss rolls (cakes) to Switzerland. All the entrants put their wares on show here this week. The last winner, two years ago, was a percussion firm which sold maracas to Caracas and bird whistles in the Canary Islands. The contest is sponsored by the Export Times newspaper and a local vodka distillery.

سوزا صبحانه